

# TIER

**T**iered **I**nterventions Using  
**E**vidence-Based **R**esearch

## Handouts

### Leadership

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Developing and Using an MTSS  
Problem-Solving Team



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# MTSS Problem-Solving Team Roles

## Leadership

Team leader:

## Data Management and Analysis Leads

Assessment administration:

Data management system:

Data report creation:

Data analysis and interpretation:

## Subject Specialists

	Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Behavior
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Instruction

Intervention

Professional development and ongoing support

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# Resources

## Meetings After Screening

Structured data meetings:

[www.elitetexas.org/resources-sl/implementing-structured-data-meetings-for-english-learners](http://www.elitetexas.org/resources-sl/implementing-structured-data-meetings-for-english-learners)

## Observation Forms

- Core observation tool:  
<https://buildingrti.utexas.org/leadership-tools/observation-tool-core-content-area-tier-1>
- Fidelity checklist:  
<https://buildingrti.utexas.org/documents/pact-implementation-fidelity-checklist>
- Intervention observation tool:  
<https://buildingrti.utexas.org/leadership-tools/observation-tool-intervention>

## Progress-Monitoring Data

Collaborative instructional logs:

<https://buildingrti.utexas.org/resource-pages/collaborative-instructional-logs>

## Features of Effective Instruction

- Checklist for core instruction or intervention:  
<https://buildingrti.utexas.org/leadership-tools/observation-tool-features-of-effective-instruction>
- Walkthrough tools:  
<https://buildingrti.utexas.org/resource-pages/instructional-walkthrough-tools>

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# Sample Collaborative Instructional Log: Reading

Student [REDACTED] Grade 4<sup>th</sup> Homeroom Teacher [REDACTED]

Baseline/Current Reading Assessment	Annual Reading Goals	Comprehensive Reading Instruction	Special Education Individualized Education Program (IEP)
Instrument <u>DIBELS Next</u> Date <u>9/4</u> <hr/> Phonemic Awareness Phonics (NAFOLS) = <u>25/54</u> Fluency <u>55/90</u> wcpm Vocabulary Comprehension <u>Retell = 20/27</u> DAZE = <u>10/15</u>	- Read grade level text w/98% + accuracy - Read w/proper expression + adequate rate Intervention Exit Criteria: MOY: Accur = 97%, Rate = 103 wcpm EOY: Accur = 98%, Rate = 115 wcpm	Program <u>Reading for Content</u> Teacher <span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span> Amount of Time <u>90 min.</u> Time of Day <u>8:30 - 10:00</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Specially Designed Instruction: Small-group Fluency (15 min.) + word study (15 min) Comprehensive Reading Instruction Setting: -regular classroom daily Intervention Setting: Resource room! 5 x week for 30 min. Group: "Wolves" (Regular classroom)
Intervention Period	Priority Intervention Strategies	Teacher(s) Responsible	Notes on Student Response
<u>9/5 - 9/21</u> (dates) <u>10 - 10:30</u> (schedule) Progress Goals PA _____ PH _____ FL <u>57</u>	- Repeated reading - "How Speedy Are You?" - Model fluent reading + demonstrated how rereading can improve rate + accuracy (word study) - Build accuracy + speed w/sight words (SLAP activity)	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>	- enjoys graphing her progress! - Use gel pen to write words on cards → Trace, spell, read
Intervention Period	Priority Intervention Strategies	Teacher(s) Responsible	Notes on Student Response
<u>9/24 - 10/5</u> (dates) <u>10 - 10:30</u> (schedule) Progress Goals PA _____ PH _____ FL <u>59</u>	- Repeated reading - "How Speedy Are You?" - Compare rate + accuracy after reading for immediate feedback - Teach miscued words - Continue to build speed + accuracy w/sight words - Teach spelling of sight words (Trace, spell, read)	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>	- Motivated to read when she selects text - Get more non-fiction (horses)

Accur  
↓  
83% (46/60)

Student [REDACTED] (continued)  
 Grade 4th Homeroom Teacher [REDACTED]

Intervention Period	Priority/Intervention Strategies	Teacher(s) Responsible	Notes on Student Response	Progress Monitoring Assessment Data
<u>10/9 - 10/19</u> (dates) <u>10-10:30</u> (schedule) <b>Progress Goals</b> PA _____ PH _____ CO _____ VO _____ FL <u>61</u>	- Continue to focus on speed + accuracy - Choral read to model - Teach CVC pattern by analysis of onset-rime - Model word sort activity	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>	- Phrasing is off - adjust instruction - <span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span> is trying to rush thru text.	(score/benchmark/status) PA <u>30/54</u> at risk PH <u>62/90</u> at risk FL <u>62/90</u> at risk CO _____ VO _____
<u>10/22 - 11/2</u> (dates) <u>10-10:30</u> (schedule) <b>Progress Goals</b> PA _____ PH _____ CO _____ VO _____ FL <u>63</u>	- Teach difference between appropriate + inappropriate phrasing - Use "Fast Phrase" strategy - Continue instruction of CVC pattern - Conduct word sorts	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>	- Continue w/phrasing instruction - She's beginning to see + hear difference when listening to self-recording	(score/benchmark/status) PA <u>30/54</u> at risk PH <u>62/90</u> at risk FL _____ CO _____ VO _____
<u>11/5 - 11/21</u> (dates) <u>10-10:30</u> (schedule) <b>Progress Goals</b> PA _____ PH _____ CO _____ VO _____ FL <u>65</u>	- Continue to focus on phrasing + model correct phrasing - Explicitly point out punctuation - Use cued/blanked passages - Teach impact of phrasing on comprehension. - Teach CVC - use "Building Words with Blends" activity	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>	- Engaged when using multi-sensory approach - loves building words w/sticky notes	(score/benchmark/status) PA <u>33/54</u> at risk PH <u>66/90</u> at risk FL _____ CO _____ VO _____



Student [REDACTED] (continued) Grade 4<sup>th</sup> Homeroom Teacher [REDACTED]

Intervention Period	Priority Intervention Strategies	Teacher(s) Responsible	Notes on Student Response	Progress Monitoring Assessment Data
<u>11/26-12/14</u> (dates) <u>10-10:30</u> (schedule) <b>Progress Goals</b> PA _____ PH _____ FL <u>67</u>	-Tape-assisted reading -Use passages with same content from science unit -Teach CCVC pattern -Focus on difference between a blend + digraph -Tap out sounds in words	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>	- <span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span> loves this activity - Great cross-curricula - Struggles with digraphs	(score/benchmark/status) PA _____ PH <u>34/54/at risk</u> FL <u>70/103/at risk</u> CO _____ VO _____
<u>12/16-1/18</u> (dates) <u>10-10:30</u> (schedule) <b>Progress Goals</b> PA _____ PH _____ FL <u>69</u>	-Tape-assisted reading -Continue to use passages w/same content from science -Teach CVCC pattern -Use dry erase board to teach how to mark up words	<span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span>	MOY DIBELS Next 73 wcpm - AT Risk -Accuracy not improving as much as rate → Ramp up word study	(score/benchmark/status) PA _____ PH <u>36/54/at risk</u> FL <u>73/103/at risk</u> CO _____ VO _____
_____ (dates) _____ (schedule) <b>Progress Goals</b> PA _____ PH _____ FL _____				(score/benchmark/status) PA _____ PH _____ FL _____ CO _____ VO _____

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# Core Observation Checklists

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Kindergarten: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Fluency

Indicator	Implementation		
	Full	Partial	No
A <b>minimum</b> of 30 minutes of phonemic awareness (PA), phonics, and fluency with phonics skills <b>daily</b>			
PA <b>daily</b> in the whole group			
PA <b>daily</b> in small groups			
Use of kinesthetic movements or Elkonin boxes during PA instruction			
Sound-by-sound blending in the whole group <b>daily</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending in small groups <b>daily</b>			
Use of sorts (pictures, letters, words) based on phonics elements <b>weekly</b>			
Use of decodable texts (especially with struggling students) <b>daily</b>			
(AFTER FEBRUARY) Phoneme-grapheme mapping with phonics and spelling words <b>weekly</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of phonics elements <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of high-frequency words <b>daily</b>			
(AFTER FEBRUARY) Fluency games with phrases <b>weekly</b>			
(AFTER FEBRUARY) Partner reading with decodable texts and/or leveled texts <b>daily</b>			
Sound-spelling cards posted where students can see them easily			
Sound-spelling cards used <b>daily</b> as review			
Word wall with high-frequency words posted where students can see it easily			
Word wall used <b>daily</b> to build fluency with high-frequency words			

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade 1: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Fluency**

Indicator	Implementation		
	Full	Partial	No
A <b>minimum</b> of 30 minutes of PA, phonics, and fluency with phonics skills <b>daily</b>			
PA <b>daily</b> in the whole group			
PA <b>daily</b> in small groups			
Use of kinesthetic movements or Elkonin boxes during PA instruction			
Phoneme-grapheme mapping with phonics and spelling words <b>weekly</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending in the whole group <b>daily</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending in small groups <b>daily</b>			
Use of word sorts based on phonics elements <b>weekly</b>			
Use of decodable texts (especially with struggling students) <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of phonic elements <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of high-frequency words <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games with phrases <b>weekly</b>			
Partner reading with decodable texts and/or leveled texts <b>daily</b>			
Sound-spelling cards posted where students can see them easily			
Sound-spelling cards used <b>daily</b> as review			
Word wall with high-frequency words posted where students can see it easily			
Word wall used <b>daily</b> to build fluency with high-frequency words			

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade 2: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Fluency**

Indicator	Implementation		
	Full	Partial	No
A <b>minimum</b> of 30 minutes of PA, phonics, and fluency with phonics skills <b>daily</b>			
PA <b>daily</b> in the whole group			
PA <b>daily</b> in small groups for students who need it (e.g., some bilingual students)			
Use of Elkonin boxes or kinesthetic movements during PA instruction			
Phoneme-grapheme mapping with phonics and spelling words <b>weekly</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending in the whole group <b>daily</b>			
Syllable chunking and blending in the whole group <b>once or twice a week</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending and/or syllable chunking and blending in small groups <b>daily</b> for students who need it			
Use of word sorts based on phonic elements <b>weekly</b>			
Use of decodable texts either in the whole group or small groups with struggling students <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of phonic elements <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of high-frequency words <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games with phrases <b>weekly</b>			
Partner reading with decodable texts and/or leveled texts <b>daily</b>			
Sound-spelling cards posted where students can see them easily			
Sound-spelling cards used <b>daily</b> as review			
Word wall with high-frequency words posted where students can see it easily			
Word wall used <b>daily</b> to build fluency with high-frequency words			

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade 3: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Fluency**

Indicator	Implementation		
	Full	Partial	No
A <b>minimum</b> of 25 minutes of phonics and fluency with phonics skills <b>daily</b>			
PA <b>daily</b> in small groups for students who need it (e.g., some bilingual students)			
Use of Elkonin boxes or kinesthetic movements during PA instruction			
Phoneme-grapheme mapping with phonics and spelling words <b>weekly</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending in the whole group <b>two to three times a week</b>			
Syllable chunking and blending in the whole group <b>two to three times a week</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending and/or syllable chunking and blending in small groups <b>daily</b> for students who need it			
Use of word sorts based on phonic elements <b>weekly</b>			
Use of decodable texts either in the whole group or in small groups with struggling students <b>daily</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of phonic elements <b>three times a week</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of high-frequency words <b>weekly</b>			
Fluency games with phrases <b>weekly</b>			
Partner reading with decodable texts and/or leveled texts <b>daily</b>			
Sound-spelling cards posted where students can see them easily			
Sound-spelling cards used <b>weekly</b> as review			
Word wall with high-frequency words posted where students can see it easily			
Word wall used <b>daily</b> to build fluency with high-frequency words			

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grades 4–5: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Fluency**

Indicator	Implementation		
	Full	Partial	No
A <b>minimum</b> of 20 minutes of phonics and fluency with phonics skills <b>daily</b>			
PA <b>one to two times a week</b> in small groups for students who need it (e.g., some bilingual students)			
Use of Elkonin boxes or kinesthetic movements during PA instruction			
Phoneme-grapheme mapping with phonics and spelling words <b>weekly</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending and/or syllable chunking and blending in the whole group <b>two to three times a week</b>			
Sound-by-sound blending and/or syllable chunking and blending in small groups <b>two to three times a week</b> for students who need it			
Use of word sorts based on phonic elements <b>weekly</b>			
Use of decodable texts either in the whole group or in small groups with struggling students <b>two to three times a week</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of phonic elements <b>one to two times a week</b>			
Fluency games to build in review of high-frequency words <b>weekly</b>			
Fluency games with phrases <b>weekly</b>			
Partner reading with decodable texts and/or leveled texts <b>daily</b>			
Sound-spelling cards posted where students can see them easily			
Sound-spelling cards used as needed as review			
Word wall with high-frequency words posted where students can see it easily			
Word wall used <b>daily</b> to build fluency with high-frequency words			

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grades 6–8: English Language Arts and Reading Content Area Instruction**

Indicator	Implementation		
	Full	Partial	No
Advanced word study (e.g., multisyllabic word reading, morphology) and vocabulary are scheduled every day.			
Vocabulary words are previewed before reading a text.			
Students who need it practice building fluency or receive instruction in fluency every day.			
Teacher provides direct instruction related to high-level skills (e.g., text analysis, inference-making, summarizing).			
Teacher shows students how to ask their own questions at multiple levels.			
Students work collaboratively in groups or partners (i.e., in guided practice) before independent work.			
Teacher uses writing-to-learn strategies to help students develop and evaluate their thinking.			
Teacher provides students with authentic opportunities to practice the writing process.			
Students take pieces through the entire writing process, including revising and editing, and publish them (e.g., post them on walls, publish them in school papers or other publications).			
Teacher uses model texts for teaching grammar and other writing skills and strategies and posts these model texts in the classroom for students to access.			
Teacher-led small-group instruction is provided every day.			
Word walls with high-frequency words, vocabulary words, and/or morphemes are posted where students can see them easily.			
Teachers and students regularly use word walls during reading and writing instruction and practice.			



Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade 9: English Content Area Instruction**

Indicator	Implementation		
	Full	Partial	No
Advanced word study (e.g., multisyllabic word reading, morphology) and vocabulary are scheduled every day.			
Vocabulary words are previewed before reading a text.			
Students who need it practice building fluency or receive instruction in fluency at least every other day.			
Teacher provides direct instruction related to high-level skills (e.g., text analysis, inference-making, summarizing).			
Teacher shows students how to ask their own questions at multiple levels.			
Students work collaboratively in groups or partners before independent work.			
Teacher uses writing-to-learn strategies to help students develop and evaluate their thinking.			
Teacher provides students with authentic opportunities to practice the writing process.			
Students take pieces through the entire writing process, including revising and editing, and publish them (e.g., post them on walls, publish them in school papers or other publications).			
Teacher uses model texts for teaching grammar and posts these model texts in the classroom for students to access.			
Teacher-led small-group instruction is provided at least every other day.			
Word walls with high-frequency words, vocabulary words, and/or morphemes are posted where students can see them easily.			
Teachers and students regularly use word walls during reading and writing instruction and practice.			

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# Sample Intervention Checklist

Grade 1 Homeroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Interventionist \_\_\_\_\_Number of Students 5 Type of Intervention: Tier II / Tier III Date 9-22-18

Reading Component	Time			Activity/Objective	Instruction/Management		
	Start Time	End Time	Total Minutes		Mostly instructing	Often managing	Mostly managing
Phonemic Awareness	10:01	10:06	5	T provides S with word & S segments (2- & 3-phoneme words)		✓	
Phonics	10:09	10:19	10	Say sounds in words, blend to read words (long-e spelled "ee") Ss read decodable book aloud		✓	
Fluency	10:20	10:25	5	Ss reread decodable book 2 more times to partner while T listens	✓		
Vocabulary	---	---	0	None observed			
Comprehension	10:25	10:28	3	T calls on one S at a time to retell events in decodable book			✓

NOTE: The components taught should reflect students' needs.

Intervention Instruction	3 Most of the time	2 Some of the time	1 Rarely	0 Not at all
<b>The interventionist ...</b>				
1. Introduces the concepts and skills in <b>small steps</b>		2		
2. Explains concepts and skills in <b>clear and direct language</b>		2		
3. <b>Models</b> and demonstrates procedures with the use of <b>lots of examples</b>			1	
4. Checks initial practice items for correctness and provides immediate <b>feedback</b>			1	
5. Provides <b>many opportunities for practice</b> after initial presentation of task/skill		2		
6. Gives <b>individual and/or group opportunities to respond</b>		2		
7. Monitors students during an activity to be sure that they are performing correctly		2		
8. Provides <b>scaffolding</b> to assist students in their learning and practice				0
9. Uses <b>correction procedures</b> and provides feedback				0
10. <b>Paces instruction adequately</b> by transitioning quickly between tasks and allowing extra time when needed				0
11. Redirects off-task behavior when it occurs		2		
12. Is the intervention <b>lesson carefully and purposefully designed</b> by sequencing the task from easy to difficult?	YES		NO	

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